

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A policy enforcement system for enforcing policies, the policies defining what actions ~~of belonging to~~ a first type ~~that thereof~~ first entities as defined in a computer system may perform on second entities as defined in the computer system, the policy enforcement system comprising: being of the type that includes

a policy server, the policy server comprising including a policy database of the policies and extensibly configured to include policies for actions belonging to an additional type thereof, a policy including any action that a user may perform on an information resource; and

a policy enforcer, the policy enforcer configured to:

control ~~that controls~~ performance of the first type of action;

communicate ~~and is capable of communicating~~ a request to perform an action of the first type to the policy server[[,]]; and

~~the policy enforcer permit permitting~~ performance of the action only if a response from the policy server indicates that the policies permit the action, and the policy enforcer being extensibly configured to comprise an additional policy enforcer, which controls performance of actions of the additional type;

~~the policy enforcement system being characterized in that:~~

~~the policy data base is extensible to include policies for actions belonging to an additional type thereof and the policy enforcement system is thereby extensible to include an additional policy enforcer which controls performance of actions of the additional type.~~

2. (currently amended) The policy enforcement system of set forth in claim 1, wherein ~~further characterized in that:~~ the policy database is of the class wherein policies are defined ~~in terms of~~ as sets of the first entities and sets of the second entities and the policy database is further extensible to include an additional type of the first entities and/or an additional type of the second entities.
3. (currently amended) The policy enforcement system of set forth in claim 2, wherein ~~further characterized in that:~~ an action attribute ~~may be~~ is associated in the database with a set of the first entities and/or a set of the second entities, the action attribute specifying a manner in which an action specified in a given policy is to be performed with regard to ~~as regards~~ entities in the set of first entities and/or entities in the set of second entities.
4. (currently amended) The policy enforcement system of set forth in claim 3, wherein ~~further characterized in that:~~ the database is further extensible to include an additional type of action attributes.
5. (currently amended) The policy enforcement system of claim ~~set forth in any one of claims 1, wherein through 4 and 13 further characterized in that:~~ the additional policy enforcer controls performance of actions at a level of the computer system that ~~which~~ is different from the level ~~that~~ at which the policy enforcer control performance of actions.
6. (currently amended) The policy enforcement system of claim ~~set forth in any one of claims 1, wherein through 4 and 13 further characterized in that:~~ at least one of the policy enforcers is at a location in the computer system that is remote from the policy server.
7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A policy database for implementation ~~that is implemented~~ in a data storage device ~~that is accessible to a processor,~~ the policy database comprising:

at least one policy, the at least one policy and that belongs to the class of policy databases wherein policies are defined in terms of sets of first entities, sets of second entities, and actions, wherein a given policy defines defining a given action that which an entity belonging to a given set of the first entities may perform on an entity belonging to a given set of the second entities, the at least one policy subject to association with a further condition and,

the policy database configured to provide the processor, in response to a request to the processor, with policy information reflecting being characterized in that: ~~a further condition may be associated in the database with the given policy, the processor responding to a request to determine~~ whether a particular entity belongs ~~belong~~ to the set of first entities to which the given policy applies to may perform the given action on a particular entity belonging to the set of second entities to which the given policy applies by determining that the particular entity may not perform the given action if the further condition is not satisfied at the time the processor responds to the request.

9. (currently amended) The policy database of set forth in claim 8, wherein further characterized in that: the further condition is a time interval specification associated with the given policy, the time interval specification specifying an interval of time during which entities belonging to the given set of first entities specified in the given policy may perform the given action specified therein on entities belonging to the given set of second entities specified therein.

10. (currently amended) A policy database for implementation that is implemented in a data storage device ~~that is accessible to a processor,~~ the policy database comprising:

at least one policy, the at least one policy and that belongs to the class of policy databases wherein policies are defined in terms of sets of first entities, sets of second entities, and actions, wherein a given policy defines defining a given action that which an entity belonging to a given set of the first entities may perform on an entity belonging to a given set of the second entities, the given set of first entities and/or the given set of second entities subject to an association with an action attribute, the action attribute specifying a manner in which the given action specified in the given policy is to be performed and,

the policy database configured to provide the processor, in response to a request to the processor, with policy information reflecting being characterized in that: an action attribute may be associated in the database with the given set of first entities and/or the given set of second entities, the action attribute specifying a manner in which the given action specified in the given policy is to be performed, the processor responding to a request to determine whether a particular entity may perform an action to which the given policy applies in a particular manner by determining that the requesting entity may not perform the action unless the particular manner is the manner specified by the action attribute.

11. (currently amended) The policy database of set forth in claim 10, wherein further characterized in that: the database is extensible to include new types of action attributes.

12. (currently amended) The policy database of set forth in claim 10, wherein further characterized in that: an action attribute condition is ~~may be~~ associated in the database with an action attribute for the given policy, the action attribute condition determining whether a requesting entity belonging to a given set of first entities can perform the given action as specified in the action attribute on an entity in the given set of second entities at the time the requesting entity makes the request.

13. (currently amended) The policy enforcement system ~~of set forth in~~ claim 1, wherein ~~further characterized in that:~~ the additional type of action is defined by a user of the policy enforcement system[[;]] and the policy enforcement system includes a user interface for extending the policy database by adding the user-defined additional type of action ~~thereto~~ to the policy database.